Claims

1. A method for representing one or more menu buttons
   (INV1,…,INV4) for an electronic menu, the menu
   comprising one or more menu pages (MP1,MP2,MP3) and
   the menu button having an associated state, wherein
   the possible states associated with a button may
   comprise unselected, selected or activated state,
   characterized in that

   - a data segment representing the menu is stored on
     a removable storage medium, wherein a menu page is
     composed of separate objects, the objects being
     menu buttons (BO) or non-button objects (NBO), and
     wherein said separate objects are described by
     separate data blocks contained in said data
     segment;

   - a menu button (INV1), the menu button having an
     associated function, is not represented on the
     display; and

   - the menu button (INV1) not represented on the
     display may be selected by pressing a key or key
     sequence on a remote control, wherein the state of
     the menu button changes automatically from
     selected to activated.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein said data blocks
   describing the separate objects within a menu page
   have the same structure for non-button objects (NBO)
   and menu buttons (BO).

3. Method according to any of the previous claims,
   wherein a sound or sound sequence may be associated
   to the state of a menu button not represented on the

display, the sound or sound sequence being played
back upon entry of the button (INV1) into the
associated state.

4. Method according to any of the previous claims,
   wherein the menu button not represented on the
   display is not displayable at all, and upon selection
   is automatically activated.

5. Method according to the previous claim, wherein a
   displayed menu page is part of a multi-page menu, the
   multi-page menu being a group of menu pages
   (MP1,MP2,MP3) that logically form a single menu page,
   but with different combinations of hierarchically
   equivalent buttons being visible or invisible.

6. Method according to the previous claim, wherein the
   multi-page menu is a chapter menu.

7. Decoder for decoding an electronic menu, the menu
   comprising one or more menu pages (MP1,MP2,MP3) and
   the menu pages (MP1,MP2,MP3) comprising at least one
   menu button (INV1), the menu button having an
   associated state, wherein the possible states
   associated with a button may comprise unselected,
   selected or activated state, **characterized in** that
   the decoder includes

   - means for identifying and separating, from a data
     segment being retrieved from a removable storage
     medium and representing the menu, separate data
     blocks relating to separate objects, the objects
     being menu buttons or non-button objects;

- means for generating a menu button object (INV1), the menu button object (INV1) having an associated function and being not represented on the display; and

5 - means for changing the state of the menu button (INV1) not represented on the display from unselected to activated upon a user pressing a key or key sequence on a remote control.

10 8. Decoder according to the previous claim, wherein the means for generating a menu button object (INV1), the menu button object having an associated function and being not represented on the display, automatically executes the button command associated with said menu

15 button.

9. Decoder according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the means for generating a menu button object (INV1) may also generate menu objects (BO,NBO) being represented on

20 the display.